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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. In the above referenced Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-6 and 8 under 35 USC § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Matsunaga (U.S. Patent No. 6,759,906) in view of Aubauer (U.S. Patent Application No. US2005/0276423) and claims 7 and 9-14 under 35 USC § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Matsunaga (U.S. Patent No. 6,759,906) in view of Aubauer (U.S. Patent Application No. US2005/0276423) and Melo (U.S. Patent No. 6,243,817). The rejections and objections have been traversed and, as such, the applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the allowability of claims 1-14.

2. Claims 1-6 and 8 have been rejected under 35 USC § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Matsunaga (U.S. Patent No. 6,759,906) in view of Aubauer (U.S. Patent Application No. US2005/0276423). The applicant respectfully disagrees with this rejection and the reasoning thereof.

Matsunaga teaches a high frequency power amplifier circuit device and not a microphone bias circuit for use within an integrated circuit having a microphone input. In particular, Matsunaga shows a circuit diagram of a high frequency power amplifier module in Figure 1, a partial circuit diagram of part of a radio communication apparatus in which the high frequency power amplifier module in the first embodiment is built in Figure 6, a circuit diagram of a concrete example of a bias control circuit in the high frequency power amplifier module in Figure 7, and an entire block diagram of a portable telephone that employs the high frequency amplifier circuit device in Figure 26. (See brief description of the drawings.)

FIG. 26 shows a block diagram of the whole portable telephone that employs the high frequency power amplifier circuit module, which is used in the transmission output part of the high frequency interface. (See column 16, lines 49-51 and column 17, lines 2-4.) As shown in Figure 26, the microphone 323 provides its output to the voice interface 330, which communicates with the base band section 350, which in turn communicates with the high frequency interface 340. As such, signals received by the microphone 323

are processed by the voice interface 330, and then processed by the base band section 350 before being provided as high frequency signals (e.g., 900 MHz for GSM – column 1, lines 44-53) to the high frequency interface, which includes the power amplifier module.

Matsunaga teaches that the high frequency power amplifier circuit device, the semiconductor amplification element in the last stage is usually composed of discrete parts (an output power MOSFET, etc.) and the semiconductor amplification element in the preceding stage and the bias circuit are often integrated into a semiconductor integrated circuit formed on one semiconductor chip. Hereinafter, a component in which a semiconductor integrated circuit that includes semiconductor amplification element parts, the bias circuits, capacity elements, etc. are integrated will be referred to as a high frequency power amplifier module or simply as a module. (See column 1, lines 27-38) Matsunaga, however, is silent about IC pins coupled to the power amplifier circuit.

Figure 6 shows the power amplifier module 100 amplifying an oscillation produced by a VCO 70 via input terminal (pin) and Figure 7 shows the operation of the bias circuit.

Accordingly, Matsunaga does not teach or suggest a microphone bias circuit, but does teach a high frequency power amplifier. A high frequency power amplifier that does not include a first integrated circuit (IC) pin; a first resistor operably coupled to the first IC pin and a return voltage; a second IC pin operably coupled to receive analog signals from a microphone; and a variable supply voltage buffer operably coupled to produce a buffered supply voltage based on a variable impedance setting, wherein at least one off-chip component couples the second IC pin to the first IC pin and wherein the variable supply voltage buffer provides the buffered supply voltage to second IC pin as a microphone bias voltage as is claimed in claim 1. [emphasis added]

Thus, combining the teachings of Matsunaga with Aubauer fails to render claim 1 obvious since Matsunaga does not teach of suggest the elements of a microphone bias circuit as demonstrated above.

Claims 2-6 are dependent upon claim 1 and introduce additional patentable subject matter. The applicant believes that the reasons that distinguish claim 1 over the present rejection are applicable in distinguishing claims 2-6 over the same rejection.

The applicant believes that the reasons that distinguish claim 1 over the present rejection are applicable in distinguishing claims 8 over the same rejection.

3. Claims 7 and 9-14 have been rejected under 35 USC § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Matsunaga (U.S. Patent No. 6,759,906) in view of Aubauer (U.S. Patent Application No. US2005/0276423) and Melo (U.S. Patent No. 6,243,817). The applicant respectfully disagrees with this rejection and the reasoning thereof.

The applicant believes that, since Matsunaga fails to teach or suggest elements of the microphone bias circuit, the reasons that distinguish claim 1 over its rejection are applicable in distinguishing claims 7 and 9-14 over their respective rejections.

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For the foregoing reasons, the applicant believes that claims 1-14 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that they be passed to allowance.

The Applicant hereby rescinds any disclaimer of claim scope made in the parent application or any predecessor application in relation to the instant application. The Examiner is advised that any such previous disclaimer and the prior art that it was made to avoid, may need to be revisited. Further, the claims in the instant application may be broader than those of a parent application. Moreover, the Examiner should also be advised that any disclaimer made in the instant application should not be read into or against the parent application.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone or facsimile if the Examiner believes that such a communication would advance the prosecution of the present invention.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

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